DR. K. MALAISAMY: Sir, in the Budger performance, they have given annexure II on page 21. I don't know whether the Minister has read it or not. And, they have said that unspent balance, up to a particular period, is running above Rs. 22 crores. An amount of Rs. 22 crores has been remaining as unspent balance, as per this report.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it a fact?

DR. K. MALAISAMY: So, what is the present position...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, take your seat now. Please, take your seat. Mr. Minister, please, be brief.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, I find the question so interesting and it is so rare ...(*Interruptions*)...opportunity to answer ...(*Interruptions*)... because its obsession is with things like petroleum. I would, therefore, wish to answer as briefly as I can. In so far as talented sportsmen, who have been identified, are concerned, I think, we are doing a good job in training these people. But, the total number of talented sportspersons, being trained by the Sports Authority of India, at the moment, is approximately ten thousand. Whereas, in a country like Cuba, whose entire population is less than the population of Delhi, there are one lakh sportspersons being trained there. And, I understand that in China, this number is fifty lakh. So, quite clearly, while we are doing a good job about training of those who have been identified, we need to spread our net very, very much wider. In that connection, I find that the designing and structure of the numerous schemes, that this Ministry has been evolving over the years, has not been evoking an adequate response from these State Governments. So, we need to re-design these sports programmes, converge them more closely into one. I am trying to do this in consultation with the State Governments so that the utility of these programmes is considerably enhanced. And, I hope, in consequence of that, we will be able to get far more resources put into this. It is distorted to look only at mega sports events or large expenditure without looking at the reservoir of talent in this country which we have to...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Minister, thank you. Question No. 404.

*404. [The questioner Shri Harish Rawat was absent. For answer *vide* page 28]

Availability of telephone equipments

*405. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BALAPTE:
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any estimate regarding requirement of telephone equipments for providing landline and mobile telephone connections in the urban and rural areas of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and U.P.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to ensure availability of telephone equipments to exhaust the waiting list; and

(d) the time by when the connections on demand are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Based on the growth trends, it has been estimated that telephone connections will reach a figure of 250 million by December, 2007 out of which 200 million are likely to be mobile connections. The operators are planning their roll out in the country including urban and rural areas of Chhattisgarh, Madhya pradesh, Maharashtra and U.P., based on techno-economic considerations. The major service provider for landline connections, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has got sufficient landline capacity to cover demand of urban and rural areas of the country in respect of areas with in five Kilometers from their existing exchanges. The remaining areas are being progressively covered under Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) technology.

(c) About 50-60% of additional mobile connections are likely to be provided by the private sector service providers and balance by BSNL/ MTNL to fulfill this target, BSNL has floated a tender for procurement of 63.5 million mobile lines. the allocation of this additional capacity will be done for various States/circles on the basis of demand.

The waiting list and plan for capacity expansion for the year 2006-07 in respect of BSNL network for the States of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and U.P. are as follows:—

Circle	Waiting List		Planned Capacity Expansion (2006-07)	
	Landline	Mobile	Landline through WLL	Mobile
Chhattisgarh	1,675	1,05,187	30,000	5,00,000
M.P.	3,887	1,59,249	11.02,750	10,50,000
Maharashtra	1,04,675	0	1,72,500	20,00,000
U.P.	87,221	0	2,00,250	14,00,000

(a) The Office of Administrator Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) has entered into agreements with service providers on the basis of lowest quoted bids for providing telephone connections on demand in 1685 commercially unviable Short Distance Charging Areas (SDCAs) of the country. It includes 88, 230, 228 and 105 SDCAs in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and UP respectively. It is expected that phones will be available on demand in these areas by December, 2006.

SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BALAPTE: Sir, the statement makes certain general assertions, without answering my pointed questions. My first question is, "Whether the Government has made any estimate regarding the requirement of telephone equipments for providing landine and mobile telephone connections in the urban and rural areas". And, the answer is, "Based on the growth trends, it has been estimated that telephone connections will reach a figure of 250 million" - not what is required, but what they will do. I have got a list of, at least, 40 such applications only from one district in Maharashtra, namely, Ratnagiri, where equipment is not there, and, therefore, connections are not given. The answer is, "when there is no landline connection, we will do it with WLL". And, I have got the answer from the authority, giving connections in Maharashtra. They say, "We don't have the equipment and, therefore, we can give neither landline nor WLL". There is no answer to this aspect whether they are going to provide all the equipment and by when. I asked about the date also.

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : Sir, the hon. Member has asked regarding the Staes of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and U.P We have given an answer that we are studying the trends and we are estimating that we will be able to install a capacity of 250 million by the year 2007. We have also given the waiting list as per the States in my reply. And, we are trying to match it; some of them, we should be completing this year. Sir, we also have ambitious plan to cover all the villages which have a population of 5,000 with mobile coverage by the end of this year. And, the other villages, which have got a population of less than 5,000, may come in years to come.

SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BALAPTE : Sir, again, the answer is -- and what he says does not enhance the answer any further -- that areas within five kilometres from their existing exchanges. If whatever has to be done is only on the basis of existing exchanges, or if it contemplates certain expansion, when, the answer is that the remaining areas are being progressively covered under Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) technology. there also, there is no time table. As I have said, not feasible on landline and WLL, and the equipment required is TNF and that is not available. In

almost 40 cases, that is the answer. What is the time frame? And what happens to areas which are beyond the existing exchanges? It is all right to say that whatever we have, we will give, and it is other thing to say that we will expand and give everybody. the first thing you are saying, and the second thing you are promising, but you are not saying anything about it concretely. Please do that.

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : Sir, I can understand the hon. Member's views. Sir, we are in constant process of enhancing our capacity. Sir, in the State of Maharashtra, in the last two years, we have enhanced the capacity -- both in the private sector and the public sector -- by 65 per cent. Sir, in the coming two-three years, the BSNL alone is going to procure about 63.5 million lines to add capacity. Sir, the only way we can solve this problem is by adding more and more capacity. The BSNL alone is going to procure about 63.5 million lines in the coming two years. Sir, the only answer to this problem is to enhance the capacity and try to complete as fast as possible.

श्री विनय कटियार: आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, मंत्री जी ने जो उत्तर दिया है, यह संतुष्ट करने वाला नहीं है। इन्होंने उत्तर प्रदेश के संबंध में कहा है कि मोबाइल कनेक्शन के लिए कोई प्रतीक्षा सूची नहीं है, जबकि फैजाबाद और लखीमपुर जिले में लोगों को बीएसएनएल के मोबाइल कनेक्शन के लिए तीन-तीन, चार-चार महीने प्रतीक्षा करनी पड़ रही है। आपने उत्तर प्रदेश के बारे में, अपने उत्तर में लिखा है कि यह जीरो है, तो यह जीरो नहीं है।

माननीय सभापति जी, दूसरी बात इन्होंने पांच किलोमीटर के दायरे की कही है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से आपके माध्यम से पूछना चाहता हूं कि ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में बिजली आती नहीं है,वहां पर टेलीफोन कनेक्शन लगा दिए गए हैं और कहने को वहां पर जेनरेटर्स हैं, लेकिन उनमें डीजल नहीं होता है, जिसके कारण वे चलते नहीं हैं, बैटरी चार्ज नहीं होती है और एक्सचेंज बैठ जाते हैं।

श्री सभापति : यूपी की बैटरी चार्ज नहीं होती है या इनकी नही होती है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री विनय कटियार: नहीं-नहीं, मुझे लगता है कि इनकी बैटरी बैठ गई है, वहां की चार्ज है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति : ठीक है, ठीक है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री विनय कटियार: अपनी बैटरी ये कब तक ठीक करेंगे, जिससे कि उपभोक्ताओं को राहत मिल सके, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूं।

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: Sir, I would like to tell all the hon. Members through you, Sir, that in the last two years, we increased the capacity of UP (E) and UP (W) by 140 per cent. Sir, at this moment, BSNL is not maintaining waiting list in Uttar Pradesh for mobile service.

On the problem for connectivity, Sir I have mentioned it many times that the technology is going more towards wireless. We are only going towards

wireless solution, because it is much more economical and much more faster to do. Sir, at this moment, in most of the places in Uttar Pradesh, we are in a position to give mobile connection on demand. Sir, the hon. Members is right. We can put...(*Interruptions*)... the infrastructure for giving mobile service. But, Sir, if there is no electricity provided by the State Government, what can we do? There are some problems which the hon. Member should take up with the State Government also.

श्री विनय कटियार: माननीय सभापति जी। ...(व्यवधान)...

एम॰टी॰एन॰एल॰ और बी॰एस॰एन॰एल॰ मोबाइल सेवाओं की गुणवत्ता

*406. **श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया:††**

डा॰ प्रभा ठाकुर:

क्या **संचार और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि एम॰टी॰एन॰एल॰ तथा बी॰एस॰एन॰एल॰ की मोबाइल सेवा अन्य निजी कंपनियों की मोबाइल सेवा की तुलना में गुणवत्ता की दृष्टि से पिछड़ रही है;

(ख) क्या सरकार का इस ओर ध्यान गया है कि सरकारी सेल्यूलर सेवा में रोमिंग सुविधा तो है किन्तु आवाज साफ न सुनाई देना, बार-बार फोन कटना या नेटवर्क में गड़बड़ी के कारण फोन न लगना आम बात हो गई है; और

(ग) सरकार ने अन्य कंपनियों की तुलना में अपनी मोबाइल सेवा को बेहतर बनाने के लिए क्या उपाय सोचे हैं तथा ये उपाय कब से प्रभावी होंगे; और तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

संचार और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री (श्री दयानिधि मारन): (क) से (ग) विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) से (ग) भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण (ट्राई) अधिनियम के अनुसार ट्राई को दूरसंचार सेवाओं की सेवा की गुणवत्ता पर निगरानी रखने का कार्य सौंपा गया है। ट्राई द्वारा संकलित 31 मार्च, 2006 को समाप्त तिमाही से संबंधित अद्यतन तिमाही कार्य-निष्पादन मॉनीटरिंग रिपोर्ट के अनुसार सेवा की गुणवत्ता संबंधी अधिकांश पैरामीटरों की दृष्टि से भारत संचार निगम लिमिटेड (बीएसएनएल) और महानगर टेलीफोन निगम लिमिटेड (एमटीएनएल) द्वारा प्रदान की गई मोबाइल सेवाएं निजी प्रचालकों द्वारा प्रदान की गई मोबाइल सेवाओं की तुलना में सामान्यत: पीछे नहीं हैं।

इसके अतिरिक्त, बीएसएनएल और एमटीएनएल निरंतर अपने नेटवर्क के कार्य-निष्पादन की समीक्षा कर रहे हैं और मोबाइल नेटवर्क की क्षमता को वृद्धि दर के अनुरूप इष्टतम बना रहे हैं/बढ़ा रहे हैं। सरकार सेल्युलर मोबाइल सेवा प्रदान करने हेतु केंद्र स्थापित करने के लिए स्थानीय प्राधिकरणों से अनापत्ति प्राप्त करने के मामलों में अपना सहयोग देकर संबंधित समस्याओं के समाधान में सेवा प्रदाताओं की सहायता कर रही है।

†† सभा में यह प्रश्न श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया द्वारा पूछा गया।